

I. INTRODUCTION

This work plan contains a summary of the tasks required for completion of SPR 535: Commercial Vehicle Information Systems and Networks (CVISN) Safety Information Exchange, Nogales Port of Entry (POE). This summary includes an overview of the tasks to be completed, a list of proposed questions for the stakeholder surveys, and project benchmarks with expected dates of completion.

This project will assist the State of Arizona in determining the trucking industry's safety and security violators without inconveniencing the compliant vehicles and without serving as a roadblock to legitimate trade. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies are a vital tool in helping to solve this problem. ITS can simplify the task of separating high-risk from low-risk motor carriers and shipments. Advanced knowledge about the driver, shipment, and carrier allows the authorities to make a quick assessment of the risk involved in permitting entry into the United States. Advanced information that is exchanged between authorities in a timely, cost-effective, and secure manner allows enforcement agencies to conduct their risk assessments and determine which carriers, vehicles, and drivers need to be inspected. The ability to identify the high-risk vehicles, drivers, and shipments in advance is invaluable to both the inspectors and the freight motor carrier drivers. It not only makes it possible to conduct more thorough inspections, it also allows compliant vehicles to move through the process quickly. With the help of technology, increased security and safety is achieved, resulting in faster movement of trade and lower risk to the motoring public.

In order to identify the technologies most appropriate in supporting connectivity between the vehicles, the roadside, and the administrative office process and systems, this research will include a canvassing of the literature related to ITS, Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO), and CVISN. We will also perform a survey that will include, but not be limited to, state transportation professionals, trucking industry representatives, several components of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Border and Transportation Security (BTS) Directorate, formerly U.S. Customs, U.S. Department of Agriculture¹, U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, U.S. Food and Drug Agency, Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Motor Vehicle Division, Arizona Department of Public Safety, trade professionals, the Mexican Secretary for Communications and Transportation, and Mexican Customs. Based on the survey results, an inventory will be developed and recommendation(s) will be made regarding CVISN/ITS service applications. An implementation plan will follow based on final recommendations from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and ADOT, with a final report and presentation to be made once all data have been collected.

¹ In March 2003, employees from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection (AQI) program and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) were consolidated into the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Field Operations.

The following outline provides and overview of the how tasks were organized and work completed.

Project Overview

I. Introduction

Task 1 – Work Plan

- Develop final project plan and schedule

II. Data Collection

Task 2 – Literature Review

- Collect and summarize information on ITS technologies and existing CVISN planning and implementation literature.

Task 3 – Survey/Interview Stakeholders

- Identify and interview key stakeholders to capture and document experiences and specific needs at Nogales

Task 4 – Inventory CVISN/ITS Devices, Equipment, and Software

- Identify and collect data on CVISN/ITS technologies, including an inventory of technologies, equipment, and processes currently present at Nogales POE.
- Arrange demonstrations, as possible, for the benefit of ADOT and Nogales stakeholders, and identify lessons learned at Nogales and other locations.

III. Recommendations

Task 5 – Recommend CVISN/ITS Package

- Provide recommendations of CVISN/ITS elements in support of Nogales operations

Task 6 – Develop Implementation Plan

- Based on CVISN/ITS packages, develop a preliminary budget and schedule for future implementation

IV. Project Wrap-Up

Task 7 – Final Report

- A complete report with project data will be prepared and submitted.

Task 8 – Final Presentation

- A final findings and recommendations will be presented to an appropriate group(s) upon request.